



### Key information for the Legal Studies syllabus

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Legal Studies Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#) requires students to study 7 topics over 240 hours of course time.
- Legal Studies Stage 6 specific course requirements are outlined in the [Legal Studies Stage 6 Syllabus \(2009\)](#).
- Schools are required to develop an assessment program for each Year 11 and Year 12 course. School-based assessment requirements are outlined at [Assessment and reporting in Legal Studies Stage 6](#).

### HSC examinations

- The [HSC Legal Studies examination](#) consists of a written paper comprised of 3 hours of writing plus 5 minutes reading time. This examination is broken down into 3 sections, 50 marks related to the core and 50 related to the options. Details on the HSC Legal Studies examination can be found at [Assessment and reporting in Legal Studies Stage 6](#).
- Past HSC papers by NESA, are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the examination format and structure. Past papers for Legal Studies can be found at [Legal Studies 2024 HSC exam pack | NSW Education Standards](#).
- HSC standards materials by NESA, provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands. The [Legal Studies Stage 6 HSC standards materials](#) can be found on the NESA webpages.

### Support materials

The HSIE curriculum team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Legal Studies Stage 6. Here you will find support by:

- visiting and bookmarking the [HSIE webpage](#)
- engaging with the HSIE statewide staffroom ([Join the HSIE Statewide Staffroom](#))
- visiting and bookmarking the [HSIE SharePoint page](#).

NESA also has a range of support materials on the [Legal Studies Stage Syllabus \(2009\)](#) webpage.

### Professional learning

A range of 'on demand' [professional learning resources](#) to support the implementation of HSIE Stage 6 syllabus are available.

The HSIE curriculum team also offer a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. Upcoming events are posted in the [professional learning channel of the HSIE Statewide Staffroom](#).

### General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 – monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

### Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email [hsie@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:hsie@det.nsw.edu.au) or reach out to our team via the [HSIE Statewide Staffroom](#). Join the HSIE statewide staffroom if you are not already a member. You can also subscribe to our [HSIE Newsletter](#).

